

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SINAI 00217 301620Z
ACTION SSM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 SY-05 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00 /027 W
-----089715 310304Z /66

R 301330Z JAN 78
FM USMISSION SINAI
TO B B WOLFE E-SYSTEMS GREENVILLE TX
SECSTATE WASHDC 3587

UNCLAS SINAI 0217

DEPT FOR SSM

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ASUP, ASEC
SUBJECT: SEARCHLIGHTS

1. THE SEARCHLIGHT ON THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE BASE CAMP PERIMETER FAILED TO IGNITE DURING A TEST ON 25 JANUARY. THE FAILURE TO IGNITE RESEMBLED A FLOURESENT LIGHT FIXTURE IN THAT THE LIGHT WOULD FLASH ON AND OFF FOR A PERIOD OF TIME. THE LIGHT WOULD THEN EXTENGUISH COMPLETELY. THE PERIOD OF TIME THE LIGHT FLASHED ON AND OFF VARIED WITH DIFFERENT ATTEMPTS. THE LIGHT ALSO CONTINUED TO FLASH FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF ABOUT FIFTEEN SECONDS DURING ONE ATTEMPT AND CEASED FLASHING ONLY WHEN THE CONTROL SWITCH WAS POSITIONED TO OFF.

2. THE BATTERIES AND BATTERY CHARGER HAVE BEEN CHECKED. THE MAINTENANCE MANUAL (CM023) INFORMATION INDICATED (PG 5-4 ITEM 6) A STRONG POSSIBILITY OF A BURNED OUT BULB BUT THIS DID NOT REMEDY THE SITUATION. THE CONTROL BOX WAS INTERCHANGED WITH THE ONE ON THE SOUTHWEST TOWER WITH NO IMPROVEMENT IN THE OPERATION OF THE DEFECTIVE SEARCHLIGHT (NE CORNER) AND NO DEGRADATION IN THE OPERATION OF THE GOOD ONE (SW CORNER). THE INTERCONNECTING CABLE BETWEEN THE CONTROL BOX AND THE SEARCHLIGHT WAS ALSO INTERCHANGED BETWEEN THE TWO TOWERS WITH NO CHANGE IN THE OPERATION OF EITHER SEARCHLIGHT. THE CIRCUIT TEST SWITCH INDICATIONS REFLECTED NO
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DISCREPANCIES IN ANY POSITION.

3. THERE ARE TWO MANUALS AT SFM (CM-023 AND CM-018) FOR THE SEARCHLIGHT. WE ALSO HAVE SOME CIRCUIT DIAGRAMS FOR THE POSITIONING SYSTEM WHICH IS NOT RELATED TO THE LIGHTING SYSTEM. WE HAVE NO INTERNAL SCHEMATICS FOR THE SEARCHLIGHT PROPER OR THE LOCAL CONTROL BOX.

4. OUR EFFORTS HAVE NEARLY EXHAUSTED OUR INFORMATION RESOURCES.
PRESENT PLANS ARE TO REPEAT THIS ENTIRE PROCESS IN HOPES WE MISSED
SOMETHING.

5. PLEASE ADVISE AS TO ANY TROUBLESHOOTING PROCESS WE MAY BE
OVERLOOKING, AND WHAT PROCEDURE YOU WISH US TO FOLLOW IF OUR
EFFORTS FAIL TO ISOLATE PROBLEM. (I.E. DO YOU WANT US TO RETURN
THE SEARCHLIGHT TO CONUS?)
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NNN

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